

The Topeka State Journal.

10 CENTS A WEEK. NIGHT EDITION. TOPEKA, KANSAS, SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 29, 1894. TWENTY-SECOND YEAR.

THE SPEAKERSHIP.

How the Senatorial Candidates Stand Upon It.

Major Hood is Not Involved in the Fight.

LOBDELL IN THE FIGHT

Burton, Ady and Smith Men May Unite.

Cy Leland Not Likely to Get Into a Combination.

The speakership contest is growing warmer every day, and, although there has not yet been any bad blood stirred up, no one can tell what may happen.

A story has been circulated that the managers of Major Hood's and Cy Leland's senatorial forces have taken a hand in the speakership fight and are quietly working for Lobdell. This is not true as far as Major Hood's friends are concerned. Major Hood is taking no part whatever in the speakership contest and his friends who are for him for senator are divided among themselves on the speakership question.

It is true some of them are for Lobdell but many of them are for other candidates for speaker. One of Major Hood's most active managers, who will occupy a seat in the house and will have a vote in the caucus which nominate a speaker, has from the first been for Benedict for speaker and is still for him and will vote for him.

Whom Cy Leland is for, for speaker, is hard to tell; it is known that several efforts have been made to draw him into combinations on the speaker fight but Cy Leland is too shrewd a politician to be caught napping in that way.

It is considered that Lobdell is still in the lead for speaker, although he won't be long if the senatorial candidates from the western part of the state have their way about it, which seems doubtful. It came out today that the Burton, Ady and Smith managers have been attempting to form a combination to unite the opposition to Lobdell for speaker on Judge W. B. Burton of Russell county. Burton would not do but get a big vote in the Sixth district and it was hoped that he would draw from Lobdell's strength in the Seventh.

Section has gone home and it is now said he has refused to be a party to a combination of that sort, although he is a candidate for speaker and would like to have the office. Dick Blue is attempting to pay some of his political debts by taking a hand in the senatorial fight and is doing all he can for Ady.

It is understood that Ady helped him corral some of George L. Douglass' strikers which gave him the nomination at the state convention last summer and he is now playing even. Congressman-elect Chester J. Long, of the Seventh district, is for Ady, but it is natural that he should support a man from his section of the state. In spite of Dick Blue's efforts in behalf of Ady, he is not accomplishing much, as the second district members will most of them go to Thacher rather than Ady.

The Burton senatorial forces are hard at work, and claim everything that is not known to be solid for some other candidate, although it is a well known fact that but a small number of members of the legislature are pledged to any candidate.

GLADSTONE IS 85 TODAY.

His Eyesight Has Been Restored and His Health Good.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—At Hawarden today the Right Hon. Wm. E. Gladstone is celebrating the 85th anniversary of his birth, and as usual he has received many congratulatory telegrams.

Mr. Gladstone's eyesight has been restored and his health is good. He spends hours daily in classical and theological study.

In addition to the many friends calling upon him today, Mr. Gladstone will receive deputations from the American associations of London and Paris.

The congratulatory upon this occasion of the Tory newspapers seems to be mingled with fear that Mr. Gladstone may be prevailed upon to return to active political life.

The St. James Gazette says: "It is pleasant to think that the story, which is joying his case with dignity and we regret he did not take the rest to which he was entitled years ago. How much better for his reputation had he retired before the home rule bill of 1886."

The Fall Mail Gazette says of Mr. Gladstone: "May he for many years be able to look back with satisfaction upon his old age, study the classics and theology and the encouragement of trade in eggs and jam."

The Midland Liberal and Scottish associations have sent congratulatory messages to Mr. Gladstone.

Nebraskaans to Locate in Missouri. CARBONATE, Mo., Dec. 29.—A colony of Nebraskaans is negotiating with a Carbonate real estate firm for a large tract of land in Jasper county upon which to locate. They want from 3,000 to 5,000 acres and an offer has been made them for a large tract near Alta.

Lost Three Legs Hunting Work. DENVER, Dec. 29.—Frank Miller and Wm. Maher, two young men of this city, tramped to Salida this week in search of work. The feet of both were so badly frozen that their legs have been amputated as the only chance of saving their lives.

\$250,000 Worth of Wheat Burns. TOPEKA, O., Dec. 29.—The Dayton & Michigan elevator "B" burned at 9 o'clock this morning, and is a total loss. About half a million bushels of wheat was in store, the loss on which will be \$250,000.

TWENTY-SIX BELOW.

A Severe Blizzard in Colorado and Utah With Heavy Snows.

DENVER, Dec. 29.—All Denver & Rio Grande and Colorado Midland trains from the west came in several hours late today, in consequence of a blizzard in Utah. The storm began yesterday morning and continued all day. At Provo, Utah, a foot of snow fell.

BRESEN, Colo., Dec. 29.—The weather for the past three or four days has been the severest that has been experienced for years. The snow fell to the depth of about three inches on the 28th, then again an inch on the 29th, and last night the mercury dropped to 26 below zero. The stock which are in pastures and have some kind of shelter fare very well, but those which are on the range without feed or shelter have a very hard time of it, but up to date there has been no report of deaths.

Severe Cold Elsewhere.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 29.—The lowest point reached by the thermometer here was four degrees below zero at 7 o'clock last evening. At 8 a. m. today the signal service reported 2 degrees below. Considerable trouble has been experienced by a shortage in the natural gas supply caused by the breaking of a big main leading from one of the gas fields. Reports from the mountain say that at some points the mercury reached sixteen degrees below zero.

NEW YORK, December 29.—The cold has been exceptionally severe the last 24 hours. The mercury this morning marked 8 degrees above zero at Saranac Lake in the Adirondack mountains, 22 degrees below at the summit of Mt. Huntington, and in the same region, the temperature was 40 below zero. At Genesee the mercury fell ten degrees below zero.

DEMANDS OF FARMERS.

The Colorado Alliance Wants More Money and Postal Savings Banks.

DENVER, Colo., Dec. 29.—The convention of the state Farmers' Alliance has adopted a political programme which demands:

A national currency, safe, sound and flexible, issued by the general government only, a full legal tender for all debts public and private and that without the use of banking corporations; the free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold, at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1; that the circulating medium be speedily increased to at least \$50 per capita, exclusive of legal reserves; a graduated income tax; that national legislation shall be framed in the future as not to build up one industry at the expense of another; that postal savings banks be established by the government for the safe deposit of the earnings of the people and to facilitate exchange; that land should not be monopolized for speculative purposes and alien ownership of land should be prohibited; government ownership of the railroads, the telegraph and telephone systems.

POLICE CIVIL SERVICE.

Every Chicago Policeman Must Submit to Physical and Mental Examination.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—The first examination under the new civil service government of the Chicago police force was held today. Every policeman on the rolls must submit to a physical and mental examination and those failing to reach the required standard will be dismissed.

Today's installment consisted of 220 big officers from the north side district and every one of them were worried look under his helmet as the squad filed into the examination rooms and took seats at the desk. The examination was a long one, but it was not believed that many of the policemen would lose their positions, as it was understood that past efficiency in the service would count heavily in the marking.

FIERCE LOUISVILLE FIRE

Large Losses in the Wholesale District of the City.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 29.—Last night's fire, which was gotten under control at 4 a. m., was one of the deadliest that has ever visited the wholesale district of that city.

The losses, so far as known, were as follows: Stuckey, Brent & Co., \$24,000; insurance \$23,000; building owned by Mrs. Mary E. Tevis, \$30,000; S. M. Robinson, Norton & Co., \$75,000; J. H. Quast & Co., \$40,000; insurance for \$38,000. Bliss & Co.'s loss will reach \$50,000, partly insured. General S. Co.'s loss is not known, but it is thought to be about \$300,000.

TO COVER UP FRAUD.

Burning of Court House at Stillwater, O., Charged to County Officers.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 29.—A special to the Star from Perry, O., says: Great excitement exists at Stillwater over the burning of the county court house Thursday night.

It is openly charged that the old county officers, who are to be displaced January 1, are responsible for the fire, and that they burned the court house to cover up crookedness for the past five years. It is said that many arrests will follow shortly.

NEW YORK BANK STATEMENT.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—The weekly bank statements show the following changes: Reserve, increase, \$1,958,170; loans, decrease, \$5,819,290; specie, increase, \$1,003,000; legal tenders, decrease, \$1,000,000; deposits, decrease, \$5,218,500; circulation, increase, \$103,200. The banks now hold \$35,203,350 in excess of the requirements of the 25 per cent rule.

RECEIVER FOR WOLF FERTILIZER COMPANY

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—Joseph Ullman of New York and Phillips Pollock & Co. of London today filed a bill asking for a receiver for the Wolf Fertilizer company, the Chicago fertilizer dealer whose place was closed on a chattel mortgage last Monday.

The New York and London firms are creditors of the insolvent company and ask that its affairs be wound up at once.

EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS IN ITALY.

ROME, Dec. 29.—Eight earthquake shocks were felt today in the province of Reggio di Calabria. The inhabitants are in a panicky condition.

WON'T GIVE IT UP.

No Signs That the Populist National Conference

Being Held at St. Louis Will Cast Aside.

THE OMAHA PLATFORM

The One Silver Plank Idea Not Booming.

Woman Suffrage Literature to Be Distributed.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 29.—Some of the second and third class hotels are crowded with Populists; and not a few of them, like Generals Coxey and Weaver are "stopping" at the first class hotels. This is the grand national conference to decide on what the People's Party shall do next. General Coxey and his chief of staff, Carl Browne, are the center of attraction.

General Coxey said: "I have come here to attend the People's Party conference and present those measures I have been favoring for some time. I believe the conference will take favorable action on the good roads and non-interest paying bonds plans. The commonwealth is ready to do its full share of work in turning the government of the country over to the party of the people. The people are giving more study to politics now than they did years ago, and they are rapidly showing their entire independence of either of the old parties."

Asked if he was a candidate for the Populist nomination for the presidency, the great commonwealth said he was not seeking anything in the way of office. "I would not refuse the nomination," he said, "if it was tendered and it was necessary for me to carry out these recommendations for the betterment of the times. There must be something done for the people, and that, too, without delay. Times have not improved a particle since our march to Washington."

"They might be able to keep us off the grass, but they cannot prevent us from advocating measures for the welfare of the people." Carl Browne is the most astonishing figure present at the convention. He is a big man, inclined to be portly; is of the usual stature, and has a full, fat face, with short-cropped hair and a mustache of a sandy hue; grey eyes and light-brown hair. He wears a big black slouch hat, a black coat and black trousers, but he wears a low cut vest, which reveals the absence of a linen shirt. He simply wears a striped flannel undershirt, and instead of a cuff and wrist-strap, his fat neck is adorned with a strand of amber-colored beads. On his big chest dangles the silken badge denoting his rank as lieutenant in the Coxey army. Browne is as jolly and beaming as a patent medicine fakir.

General Weaver carries in his inside pocket some wherewithal and a resolution which may interest somebody. Here they are:

Whereas, This conference of the People's Party believes that the great need of this country has been and is an enlarged volume of circulating medium; Whereas, The gold power and banking interests of the country are insisting through the president and his secretary that the enlarged issue of our currency supply shall be given exclusively into the hands of the banks, that silver shall be excluded, and that gold alone shall be a legal tender. Now, therefore, be it resolved, That without attempting to make a platform for our party, this conference insists upon the restoration of the coinage of gold and silver as it existed prior to 1873, and that all paper currency shall be issued by the general government without the intervention of banks of issue, the same to be a full legal tender.

We also declare our indelible hostility to the further issue of interest-bearing bonds. Upon these principles we declare our political faith, and we invite the co-operation of all patriotic citizens against the further encroachment of corporate power.

This resolution was adopted two weeks ago by the state conference of the People's Party of Iowa, which met in Des Moines.

Among the prominent Populists present are H. E. Taubeneck, national chairman of the party; Judge S. H. Solder, superintendent of insurance, Topeka, Kan.; W. F. Rightmire, of Topeka; General J. G. Fields, of Virginia, candidate for vice president on the People's Party ticket two years ago, and Colonel Coch, of Virginia; Dr. H. S. Taylor, of Chicago; Leo Vincent, chairman of the Oklahoma state committee; Jesse Harper, of Danville, Ill., once a candidate for governor of that state on the People's ticket; M. V. Rork, of Oregon; Henry Vincent, of Chicago; E. Gerry Brown, of Brooklyn, Mass., chairman of the state central committee.

J. K. Devine, of Nebraska, secretary of the American Bi-metallic league, which held a free silver conference recently with Populist Waite, of Colorado, Mr. Taubeneck and "Dick Bland, of Missouri, is here and attending the People's Party meetings.

This morning's session opened with no regular business at hand, pending reports of committees.

By unanimous consent the temporary officers were continued as permanent.

A committee of five to prepare a plan for a methodical campaign of education, with T. M. Byron of Iowa, as chairman, was appointed. The committee on credentials reported nothing before it for transaction and was directed by the conference to consider its duties negative, that is to pass upon the rights of any person present to whom objection might be made.

Considerable time was then occupied by remarks upon various subjects by members of the conference, including

the recent election in Alabama, educational campaigns, etc.

The committee on educational campaign reported in favor of a club or lyceum system as auxiliary to the regular campaign work, but under the direction of a separate national committee, the system to be similar to that of older party clubs.

After considerable desultory debate the report was amended by striking out the clause placing the organization of the club system in the hands of a national committee and referring it to the existing state committees. The report was then adopted.

Upon motion of Mrs. Stryker of Kansas, the national committee was requested in sending out literature upon the Omaha platform, to include therewith a proper proportion of literature upon woman suffrage.

The conference then took a recess to await the report on any address to the party.

J. W. Breidenthal, commissioner of banks in Kansas, and chairman of the Populist state committee, was called upon just before adjournment and explained the Kansas case lost to the Populists in the last campaign. But in 1890 he thought that the Republican party would once more be routed.

Grand Master Workman James H. Sovereign of the Knights of Labor, said that the test of membership to the organization was being so sharply drawn that neither a Republican nor a Democrat could become a member.

There is but one feminine delegate in the conference. She is Miss Mary E. O'Neill, editor of the People's Record, Saine county, Mo. Miss O'Neill's paper is said to be one of the ablest advocates of the platform among the majority. She occupied space at the press table, and when an artist attempted to sketch her, she informed him that he was a "horrid thing." Mary Elizabeth Lease of Kansas, who, it was anticipated, would be present and assist in making things lively, telegraphed yesterday that she could not be present. Many regrets were expressed.

MR. ROBSON'S ANECDOTE.

The Actor Tells a Most Interesting One About Edwin Booth.

STUART ROBSON is here today. He and Mrs. Robson and their five ear old son, and his nurse, are all at the Flitrop.

Mr. Robson remembers that he was not long with his company, last year, and is a little worried about it. "I am afraid they will remember it," he said to a JOURNAL reporter this afternoon, "and some of them may stay away tonight. I very much regret that sort of thing and it doesn't happen often. It was absolutely necessary or it wouldn't have happened."

Mr. Robson spoke of the newspapers. "They have been very kind to me," he said, "and I believe I appreciate it more now than I used to. I get sensitive as I get older. An adverse notice worries me more now that it used to. It worries me very much. Other actors are the same way."

"About a year before he died Mr. Booth said to me one day, Stuart, do you know that I haven't read the dramatic column of a newspaper for eight years? I am so afraid I shall see something about myself that I will wonder if I am very sensitive to it. I read the newspapers because I want to keep posted on the general events, but when I see an article that promises to say something about Edwin Booth I skip it. I am very much that way and I guess we all are."

"Miss Stine is not with me this year. We are not playing 'The Comedy of Errors' this season at 'Leap Year' and 'The Henrietta' are our principal pieces now. I consider 'Leap Year' full as good as any of them."

Mrs. Robson is the large woman who played the widow in 'The Henrietta,' and will play Sarah O'Leary tonight.

Mr. and Mrs. Robson say they are going to make an actor out of their boy, and it is certain that if there is anything in heredity he will be a great success.

Mr. Robson was much obliged to Mr. Dickinson for the compliments paid him last night in his speech.

Mr. Robson and his company will be at the Grand tonight in 'Leap Year' or, the Ladies' Privilege, and the house will be warmer. There is a good advance sale and several box parties.

SANTA FE FIGHT.

A Powerful Stock Interest May Bring Suit Against the Reorganization Committee.

BOSTON, Dec. 29.—A news bureau today says: "A powerful stock interest is contending with the Atchison reorganization committee. These stockholders are entitled to have returned to them four or five million dollars applied as interest on the income bonds and mortgage bonds given in exchange for income bonds."

"Threats are made of a suit to recover this money. It is probable that no plans will be issued for two weeks. Directors of the Atchison company have as yet scrutinized only part of the proposed plan."

FAIR AND COLDER.

It Will Be That Way Tomorrow Evening, Says Observer Jennings.

It was not so cold last night as the night before. The lowest temperature last night was only 15 above, whereas it was 2 the night before. This afternoon it is 32 above.

Mr. Jennings says the weather is clear today with few exceptions, though snow is falling in Nebraska and Montana. The temperature has risen at all stations between the Mississippi river and the Rocky Mountains, the general rise being from 12 to 16 degrees, at Pueblo it is 20, at Cheyenne 24, and at Miles City, Montana, 28, while at Helena it has risen only 8 degrees in the last twenty-four hours.

The conditions indicate fair and slightly warmer today and tomorrow, probably turning colder tomorrow evening.

Newspaper Sold for \$100,000.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 29.—Each of the four members of the city board of administration today used the Tribune for \$25,000 damages, a total of \$100,000, for false charges in connection with recent contracts for water works tanks.

FORTY-ONE ROASTED.

A Dreadful Christmas Holocaust at Silver Lake, Oregon.

Forty-one People Burned to Death in a Building.

A LAMP WAS UPSET.

Crowd Became Panic Stricken and Couldn't Escape.

Men, Women and Children Trampled and Burned.

Many of the Injured Ones Will Surely Die.

The Town is 150 Miles from a Telegraph Station.

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., Dec. 29.—News has just reached here that a most horrible holocaust occurred at Silver Lake, Lake county, Oregon, on Christmas evening, in which forty-one persons were burned to death and sixteen badly injured, five of whom will die.

A large crowd had assembled in Christmas Bros' hall to attend a Christmas tree festival. While the festivities were going on some one climbed on a bench, from which point he expected to get a better view of what was going on. In doing so his head struck a lamp hanging from the ceiling, overturning it.

The oil immediately caught fire, and everything in the room being dry and of an inflammable nature the room was soon a mass of flames. Some one shouted: "Get out the door and keep quiet; it can be put out."

By this time the confusion was so great that people began scrambling in a wild endeavor to reach the door. Women and children were trampled under foot, and as there was only one exit to the hall and the door being blocked by the majority of the crowd and the door many rushed headlong into the flames. The dead are: Mrs. JOHN BECK and two children.

Mr. OWSEY and two children.

J. J. BECK and daughter.

Mrs. SNELLING.

Mrs. HOWARD and two children.

W. O. HARRIS and wife.

Mrs. COBURN.

FRANK WIST, wife and two children.

Ed BOWEN.

MISS McCULLY.

T. J. LADRIE and child.

Mrs. WARD.

Mrs. E. B. AUSTINE.

FRANK BOWLING.

Mrs. PAYNE.

Mrs. NETTIE WILLIAMS and child.

W. CLAY MARTIN and wife.

ROBT. SMALL.

Mrs. ELLA WARD and child.

FRANK ROSE, mother and sister.

A child of ROY WARD.

IRA HAMILTON.

Mrs. GUS SCHROEDER and child.

The five injured and likely to die are: Mrs. T. J. Labrie.

Robt. Snelling and sister.

Edward Payne and son.

Silver Lake is a small village in Lake county, Oregon, of about 100 inhabitants and it is 150 miles from the nearest telegraph office.

The news was brought here by sledge from Silver Lake. Only meager particulars were sent as the little town is in a frenzy of excitement and grief.

LOCAL MENTION.

Jelen, the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. McKee, died Friday night and will be buried Sunday at 11 a. m.

Wm. Brown, who stole an overcoat off a defenseless Kansas avenue dummy, is serving a sentence of twenty-five days in the city jail for it.

The United Presbyterians will begin a series of evangelistic meetings January 7th, conducted by Rev. L. W. Williams son of Amoret, Mo.

Henry Stilson and Pat McPherson, two Parkdale young men, brushed up their jugs a little the other night and had a pleasant little time between them. Each was fined \$10.

J. F. Lee, who so far forgot himself as to admit that he was a lawyer, was in police court this morning and also pleaded guilty to having been drunk. He was fined \$5.

James Claudy and a man named McClavery were arrested for being drunk last night. A McClavery put up \$5 and Claudy put up his \$4.00. Neither was in police court this morning and the money was forfeited.

Factors of city churches are requested to send in the subjects of their Sunday sermons, morning and evening, if possible, but not the Sunday school hours, notices of prayer meetings, etc. The latter can not be published without charge. All church items of news are welcome.

The Knights of Pythias will vote, before the meeting of the next grand lodge, on the question, "Should the business of the grand lodge be done exclusively by the representatives-elect." This question will be discussed next Wednesday evening by Home lodge No. 155, by J. G. Wood affirming and Frank Herald denying.

Starts for Japan.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Ex-Secretary of State Foster started from here today for Japan, where he will join the peace commissioners of the Chinese government to act as their legal adviser.

Vault Contract Awarded.

The county commissioners have awarded the contract for the vaults in the new court house to the Fenton Metallic Furnishing company at \$11,133.86.

Had an Audience With the Sultan.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 29.—United States Minister Terrell had an audience with the sultan yesterday.

ON THE RIGHT TRACK.

The Sheriff Believes that He is—Novels' Hearing Postponed.

Sheriff D. N. Burdge and ex-Sheriff John M. Wilkerson are giving their entire time and attention to hunting down the murderer of Mrs. A. D. Matson.

Sheriff Burdge said today: "I believe we are on the right track and the man who did the deed will be punished. I am not at liberty to make public all I know as it might interfere with a fair trial and might help the guilty man to get away."

The coroner's jury is still in session, although it may adjourn tonight. Since the coroner's jury has been made the subject of much comment, the coroner today called on the sheriff and informed him that when the coroner's jury adjourns he would furnish the sheriff with any information in his possession which the sheriff may want.

Sheriff Burdge has not been informed what the coroner's jury has been doing, although he is the officer who is expected to bring the guilty parties to justice. The coroner says the jury may possibly adjourn this evening.

Frank Novels, the colored man who is now in jail, charged with the murder, was to have had his preliminary examination this morning before Judge Hazen's court, but at the request and on motion of his attorney, the examination was continued until January 10.

By securing this continuance Novels escapes being tried at the next term of the district court and his case can come up for trial in Judge Hazen's court before his April term. Novels says he was a deputy sheriff under Sheriff Morse in Sumner county for a year, but Sheriff Morse says he was not. Novels also tells his attorney that he believes the people who are testifying against him are trying to shield themselves.

Acquitted of Embezzlement.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 29.—At Independence today Montgomery H. Lewis, charged with embezzling \$4,500 from the Leeward Investment company while acting as its auditor, was acquitted on all six counts. The jury could not agree last night and nothing better than a disagreement was looked for by Lewis and his counsel.

Anderson Gray Sentenced.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 29.—A special to the Star from Wellington, Kansas, says: At noon today Anderson Gray was given the death sentence by Judge Burnett, according to the verdict of the jury, finding him guilty of murder in the first degree for the killing of Thomas Patton. Thomas McDonald, while under the hypnotic influence of Gray did the killing, but was discharged after the trial.

Senator Martin in Favor.

A Washington dispatch says Senator John Martin visited the White house Thursday in company with two actresses whom he presented to President Cleveland, and that the president gave each of the visitors a rose, a photograph of himself and his autograph.

They Get Night Hours.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—The 3,500 employees in the packing house of Armour & Co. have been informed that commencing next week eight hours will